

Weekly Status & Information Report: September 19 - 23, 2011

Official City Meetings Scheduled the Week of September 26, 2011:

- City Council meeting, Monday, September 26, 7:30 p.m. in the Auditorium
 - Arts and Humanities Commission meeting, Tuesday, September 27, 7:30 p.m. in the Council Conference Room)
 - Commission on Landlord-Tenant Affairs Emergency Public Hearing (Kofa v. 7401 New Hampshire LLC), Tuesday, September 27, 7 p.m. in the Hydrangea Room
 - Takoma Junction Task Force meeting, Tuesday, September 27, 7:30 p.m. in the Lilac Room
- All meetings are held in the Community Center and open to the public unless noted otherwise. Contact JessieC@takomagov.org to check for cancellations or for additional information. (City Clerk)

Nominating Caucus-Save the Date: The City Nominating Caucus will convene on Tuesday, October 4, 7:30 p.m. in the Community Center Auditorium. At the caucus, nominations of candidates for mayor and city council will be accepted. Candidates wishing to have their names placed on the ballot for the November 8 City Election must receive a nomination and second at the caucus. See www.takomaparkmd.gov for complete details. (City Clerk)

Takoma Langley Sector Plan Urban Design Guidelines (Ward 6): A draft of the Urban Design Guidelines that the Montgomery County Planning Department is recommending that the Planning Board adopt is now online (www.theNewAve.com). You may also access City staff comments. The Planning Board will be voting on October 6, tentatively scheduled in the morning. The City Council will be voting on a resolution recommending the Board not approve the Urban Design Guidelines on Monday, September 26. During that meeting, the City Council will also be voting on a resolution to recommend that the Sector Plan not be approved unless additional language regarding design is added to the Sector Plan. See www.theNewAve.com for more details. (Housing and Community Development)

The New Ave Community Garden Grant (Wards 2, 3 & 6): The City offers assistance to groups interested in community gardening and greening on New Hampshire Avenue. To date the City has provided grants for five projects on public and private land along the New Hampshire Avenue corridor. Applications are open until January 31, 2012 and can be obtained at <http://www.thenewave.com/files/docs/application-community-gardens.pdf>. For more information please contact Erkin Ozberk at 301-891-7213 or email ErkinO@takomagov.org. (Housing and Community Development)

New Ave Coordination (Ward 2, 3, & 6): City staff met with Prince George's County Community Planning North Division to discuss opportunities to work together on revitalizing and promoting the New Ave Corridor. (Housing and Community Development)

Laugh It up Funny Girl - Saturday Night: "We are Takoma" presents actor-vocalist Gia Mora and pianist-composer Charlie Barnett in a highly caffeinated evening of music and storytelling guaranteed to crack you up. Digital surveillance, online dating, and an iPod Shuffle of American songs come together in a highly caffeinated evening of music and storytelling about love and life in the internet age. Featuring three new songs by Charlie Barnett plus little known gems by Johnny Mercer, Nellie McKay, and Jule Styne. Saturday, September 24 at 7:30 pm in the Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium. Free event though donations are welcome. <http://www.facebook.com/event.php?eid=136711319758284#!/event.php?eid=240614415981793> (Housing and Community Development)

Takoma Trees Sculpture Installation: On Tuesday, Sept. 27, three tall sculptures will be delivered and installed at the Grant Avenue and Darwin Avenue entrances to Takoma-Piney Branch Park. Parking will be restricted on Tuesday after 9 am on Grant Avenue between Piney Branch and Maple Avenue and on Darwin Avenue. The three sculptures are over 20 feet tall and have many prism "leaves" hanging from them. Two will be placed at the Grant Avenue cul-de-sac park entrance and one will be placed at the Darwin Avenue park entrance. The sculptures are the work of Judy Sutton Moore, an artist from nearby

Silver Spring. The delivery and installation will be dramatic! In the case of heavy rain or lightning, delivery will be rescheduled. (Administration)

Bike to Work Day 2012 (City-wide): City staff attended a regional Bike to Work Day organizational meeting to learn about hosting pit stops in Takoma Park. Bike to Work Day is held each May and some communities celebrate Bike to Work Week and Bike to Work Month. If you are interested in assisting with organizing or volunteering the day of, please contact Ilona Blanchard at 301-891-7205 or e-mail ilonab@takomagov.org. (Housing and Community Development)

Writers Rock!: There's still space available at our program on Monday, Sept. 26 at 7:30 p.m. at which three children's novelists will talk about their work. The trio of writers – Tami Lewis Brown, Katy Kelly and Uma Krishnaswami – are either local, or have local ties, but they also have national reputations. For those interested, the authors' books will be available for purchase by cash, check or credit card, courtesy of Politics & Prose bookstore. We encourage folks to register for this event, which is great for kids ages 5 up and their grown-ups. To register, go to www.takomapark.info/library/registration.html or call us at 301-891-7259. (Library)

Community Read-Out!: In celebration of Banned Books Week, all are welcome to attend our second annual Community Read Out on Saturday, Oct. 1, from 10 a.m. – noon. At our event, we will have folks reading children's picture books and passages from children's novels that have been challenged in other libraries. There are still openings for readers; if you're interested in reading, please contact Karen MacPherson, children's/teen librarian, at karenm@takomagov.org or 301-891-7262. But all are welcome just to come and listen (and see the picture book illustrations on the big screen). This is a great event for families, and we'll conclude with a pizza party at noon in the Azalea Room. Registration is required; to register, go to www.takomapark.info/library/registration.html or call us at 301-891-7259. Thanks to the Friends of the Library for funding this event. (Library)

College Bound: Dr. Herm Davis will kick off the first of our three College Bound programs on Tuesday, Sept. 27 at 7 p.m. with a discussion of college financial aid. Dr. Davis, a national expert on college financial aid, will explore the financial aid timetable, scholarships, loans, work-study, college savings plans, the FAFSA application and more. The two other College Bound programs will take place on Tuesday, Oct. 4 at 7 p.m. (Community College option) and Tuesday, Oct. 11 at 7 p.m. (Dr. Lori Potts Dupre discusses the college selection process). All are welcome to attend one or all of these free programs, which are sponsored by our Friends of the Library. We ask you to register so we can be sure to have enough seats for everyone. To register, go to www.takomapark.info/library/registration.html or call us at 301-891-7259. (Library)

Summer Quest Record: Our Summer Quest program set a new record this year, with participants reading a total of more than 1,900 books! That's 400 more books than last summer. We celebrated the record at a party on Sept. 19, attended by more than 50 kids and adults. Thanks to our Friends of the Library for funding our unique summer reading program, and thanks to Library Assistant Dave Burbank, the creative genius behind Summer Quest. (Library)

Circle Time Parking: Parking for the 10 a.m. Circle Time on Tuesday, Sept. 27 could be tight because of the installation of a sculpture in the newly-renovated park behind Piney Branch Elementary School. So we encourage all of those who will be coming to the 10 a.m. Circle Time to consider walking, if at all possible. (Library)

Seniors Bone Builders Meeting: Instructors and participants from the Tuesday/Friday Bone Builders Class held an evaluation meeting in the Lilac Room, Takoma Park Community Center on Tuesday, September 20, 2011. Ann McHenry, class leader, surveyed seniors about their participation in the program, and what improvements they have noticed in their health and physical well-being as a result of their participation. The meeting revealed very positive feedback, and the results may be published in a future Silver Foxes Newsletter. (Recreation)

Hair braiding Workshop: Pre Teens ages 10-12 are participating in their 3rd week of the hair braiding

workshop. This hands-on workshop is teaching basic and advance techniques of hair braiding including the three strand classic, three strand french and a variety of styles and hair extensions. Hair braiding workshops for teens ages 13 -17 will take place every Tuesday and Thursday starting October 25th. This workshop is free but pre-registration is required. For more information contact Faye Wright, 301 891-7283, Fayew@Takomagov.org (Recreation)

College Life Tour: On Saturday, September 24th teens will learn what it takes to become a part of Howard University's rich legacy as we head to Howard for its Open House. Teens will have the opportunity to participate in a campus tour, learn more about the variety of academic programs and interact with Howard students, faculty and staff. Recreation Department staff will depart from the Takoma Park Community Center at 9:00am. This event is free and space is still available. For more information contact Faye Wright, 301 891-7283, Fayew@Takomagov.org (Recreation)

Tennis Clinic: Off to a great start! The Fall Tennis Clinic began on Tuesday, September 20. Participants were introduced to the game of tennis as they learned proper hand placement, ball control, court awareness and had some fun during match play. Clinic will resume next Tuesday. Clinic times: Ages 7-9 (3:45 p.m. - 4:45 p.m.) and ages 10-13 (4:45 p.m. - 5:45 p.m.) (Recreation)

“Go Deep” Flag Football Program – Starts Wednesday: The “Go Deep” flag football program will begin next Wednesday, September 29 (3:45 p.m. – 4:45 p.m.) Program will be held at Hodges Field (behind Takoma Park Elem.) All registered participants should bring a water bottle. There are still a few spaces left for this program. For more information or to register, visit: <http://www.takomaparkmd.gov/recreation> or call 301 891-7284. (Recreation)

Outdoor Street Hockey - Begins Thursday: The Outdoor Street Hockey program will begin next Thursday, September 30 (3:45 p.m. – 4:45 p.m.) Program will be held on the blacktop next to the Takoma Park Community Center. There are still a few spaces left for this program. For more information or to register, visit: <http://www.takomaparkmd.gov/recreation> or call 301 891-7284. (Recreation)

Zumba Begins a New Session: Zumba Classes began on Wednesday, September 21st. This class fuses hypnotic Latin rhythms and easy-to-follow moves to create a one-of-a-kind fitness program that will blow you away. Class meets on Wednesday @ 6:00PM & Saturday @ 9:15AM. Spaces are still available, so register today to secure your spot!

Training: On 9-19 through 9-22, Cpl. Black, Pfc. Walpole, Pfc. Villegas and Pfc. Demuth attended “Crisis Intervention Team Training” at the Montgomery County Crisis Center in Rockville, Maryland. (Police)

Crime Report: The most recent Takoma Park Police Weekly Crime Report (September 16-22, 2011) may be viewed online at: http://tppolice.blogspot.com/2011/09/takoma-park-police-department-weekly_22.html. (Police)

Traffic Enforcement: Officers conducted at least 156 traffic stops, which resulted in citations, one Controlled Dangerous Substance (CDS) arrest from traffic and two Driving Under the Influence (DUI) arrest from traffic. (Police)

During September 16-22, 2011, the following details were completed:

September 16, 2011

7500 block of Carroll Avenue (speeding) – conducted a 60-minute detail and issued three State citations for speed and two other State citations.

Maple Avenue & Sherman Avenue (stop sign enforcement) - conducted a 60-minute detail and issued three State citations.

Maple Avenue & Ritchie Avenue (stop sign enforcement) - conducted a 60-minute detail and issued three State citations.

700 through 1000 blocks of East West Highway (speeding) - conducted a 30-minute detail and issued one State citation for speed and one warning.

Erskine Street at 13th Place (stop sign enforcement) - conducted a 30-minute detail and issued one State citation.

East West Highway & Kentland Avenue (speeding) - conducted a 60-minute detail and issued two State citations for speed and one other State citation.

East West Highway & Kentland Avenue (speeding) - conducted a 30-minute detail and issued one State citation.

Erskine Street & 13th Place (stop sign enforcement) - conducted a 30-minute detail and issued one State citation.

September 19, 2011

1000 block of East West Highway (speeding) - conducted a 90-minute detail and issued four State citations for speed and four other State citations.

Ethan Allen Avenue & Jackson Avenue (no right turn) - conducted a 90-minute detail and issued nine State citations and two warnings.

Ethan Allen Avenue & Jackson Avenue (no right turn) - conducted a 30-minute detail and issued five State citations.

September 20, 2011

7500 block of Carroll Avenue (speeding) - conducted a 30-minute detail and issued two State citations.

Ethan Allen Avenue at Jackson Avenue (no right turn) - conducted a 60-minute detail and issued four State citations.

September 21, 2011

1000 block of East West Highway (speeding) - conducted a 60-minute detail and issued four State citations.

Ethan Allen Avenue at Jackson Avenue (no right turn) - conducted a 60-minute detail and issued 10 State citations.

Manor Circle at Ethan Allen Avenue (failure to obey traffic control device) - conducted a 30-minute detail and issued no citations or warnings.

7500 block of Carroll Avenue (speeding) - conducted a 60-minute detail and issued four State citations for speed and three other State citations.

September 22, 2011

7500 block of Carroll Avenue (speeding) - conducted a 60-minute detail and issued five State citations.

Ethan Allen Avenue at Jackson Avenue (no right turn) - conducted a 60-minute detail and issued five State citations.

Takoma Langley Crossroads Area (tag reader/suspensions) – conducted a detail at various times and issued five State citations.

Ethan Allen Avenue at Jackson Avenue (no right turn) - conducted a 90-minute detail and issued 22 State citations.

Police Department Meetings:

September 19 - Chief Ricucci served as Acting City Manager at the City Council meeting.

September 21 - Chief Ricucci held his monthly Chief's Advisory Board meeting.

September 24 - Chief Ricucci and the Police Department will participate in Takoma Park Play Day.

September 24 - Chief Ricucci will attend and speak to the Pinecrest Community at their picnic at the VFW in Takoma Park.

Traffic Officer Stats (Cpl. Michelle Holmes) for the Week of September 16 – 22:

Calls for service: 10

State Citations issued: 142

City tickets: 12

Reports: 7

Safety Equipment Repair Orders: 3

Warnings: 4

Court: 2.5 hours

On View arrests: 1